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Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2007

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-10, 12, and 14-23 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-2, 4, 10, 12, 14, and 18 are amended, and claims 3, 5, 11, and 13 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to claim 2 because of informalities. The objection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that "the drawings do not correspond to a 'circumferential' shape." However, independent claim 2 recites that "the display protecting member is configured to surround the circumferential surface of the display module." In the exemplary embodiment shown in Figure 4, element 54 represents the display module and element 60 represents the display protecting member with support rib 78. Thus, Figure 4 does show an example of the recited features of independent claim 2 as the display protecting member 60 surrounds the circumferential surface of the display module 54. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-6, 10-15, 18-21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shimazaki, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0049293. Claims 3, 5, 11, and

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13 have been canceled. The rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the remaining

claims.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite, inter alia, that a predetermined clearance

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is maintained between an upper surface of the supporting rib and a lower surface of the upper

cover prior to an external impact on the upper cover. The Examiner corresponds elements 231,

232, 236, and 237 of Shimazaki with the claimed display protecting member. However, elements

236 and 237 are their front and back screens, respectively. Elements 231 and 232 are supporting

frame members. However, no clearance is provided between the supporting frames 231, 232

and the first and second casings 201 and 202. The term "clearance" is defined by Webster's

New World Direct Dictionary, 3rd Coll. Ed., page 260, a copy of which is attached, as "the clear

space or distance between ...mechanical parts." Independent claims 10 and 18 are also similarly

amended to include a predetermined clearance feature, and thus are also allowable over

Shimazaki.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1, 10, and 18 over Shimazaki should be

withdrawn. Dependent claims 2, 4, 6, 11-15, 19-21, and 23 are allowable over Shimazaki at least

for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 10, and 18, from which

they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 7-9, 16-17, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over

Shimazaki. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Dependent claims 7-9, 16-17, and 22 are allowable over Shimazaki at least for the reasons

discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 10, and 18, from which they respectively

depend, as well as for their added features. Further, it is respectively submitted that it would not

have been obvious to use stainless steel for the display protecting member, as mobile terminal

frame parts are generally constructed of plastic materials. Further, the Examiner's comments in

the "Response to Arguments" section of the Office Action are improper. The Examiner asserts

that "the applicant did not traverse the examiner's assertion of Official Notice with respect to

claims 1-23; therefore, the common knowledge or well known in the art statement is taken to be

Admitted Prior Art because applicant failed to traverse the examiner's assertion of Official

Notice." However, the Examiner's assertion of Official Notice applied to the rejection of the

claims over Makino, a reference which was improperly applied. Thus, any combination of

Makino and Official Notice was improper. It is noted that Applicant's arguments resulted in the

withdrawal of <u>all</u> of the rejections of the previous Office Action. Accordingly, the rejection of

dependent claims 709, 16-17, and 22 over Shimazaki should be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION** 

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the

application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are

earnestly solicited.

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If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better

condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the

telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is

hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and

please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 19, 2007

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